

## **2010**

### **Card Sound Road Environmental Restoration Team (SERIT)**

For the past three years, the Project team has combined the resources of volunteers and federal, state, and local government agencies to preserve, protect and enhance an area of high-quality coastal waters and wetland that historically was badly abused by the public. The project area is focused on a 2 square-mile area surrounding a stretch of Card Sound Road near the Miami-Dade and Monroe County line at the southeastern tip of Florida.

#### **Project Description:**

Project successes include removal of more than 500 tons of marine debris, including over 100 derelict vessels and over 1,000 abandoned crab traps. Close to an acre of illegally constructed overwater shacks, docks and other structures have been removed from the area since 2008.

#### **Partners include:**

Miami-Dade County DERM, NOAA, Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission Division of Law Enforcement, FDEP, Audubon of Florida, and Miami-Dade County's Attorney's Office, Police Department, Dept of Building and Neighborhood Compliance, and Public Works Department.

### **Treasure Coast Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area Partnership (SERIT)**

#### **Nisqually Estuary Restoration Team (NWRIT)**

The large size of the restoration, with full tidal influence and sedimentation patterns unimpeded by dikes should produce a more diverse complex of estuarine habitats, including the development of higher order channels and sloughs and greater elevation differences in the salt marsh mosaic. Freshwater wetland vegetation communities will convert to a mosaic of mudflats, tidal sloughs, low, mid, and high salt marsh over time. The restoration projects in the estuary have included 75 acres of riparian surge-plain habitat along the Nisqually River. This rare habitat type used extensively by passerine birds and channels within the surge plain forest are used extensively by juvenile salmonids as they begin their transition to marine waters.

The US Geological Survey and the Nisqually Tribe are leading the monitoring efforts to document habitat development and ecosystem function with large-scale restoration. The Tribe is leading fisheries monitoring work and has seven years of data to build on. Their monitoring of early restoration sites held many lessons for the large project that was just completed at the Refuge. USGS leading the monitoring efforts to document marsh development and nearshore effects including: channel formation, sediment deposition and erosion patterns, vegetation colonization, bird use, tidal fluctuations, Chinook otolith analysis, salinity mixing, and geomorphology.

### **Eel River Headwaters Restoration Partnership (NERIT)**

The restoration of the headwaters of Eel River is one of the most ambitious coastal restoration projects completed to date in New England. It is the largest Atlantic white cedar swamp restoration in the Commonwealth and includes a variety of restoration techniques in a single project area including; stream channel and floodplain re-construction, fill removal, extensive wetland plantings, rare-species habitat creation/enhancement, dam removals and culvert replacements. It exemplifies holistic restoration of an entire coastal headwaters area, including both wetland and riverine elements. It was a product of innovative design, years of partner coordination and collaboration, multiple funding sources, and extensive input and technical assistance from the entire team

#### **Partners include:**

The Town of Plymouth, Mass Department of Fish and Game DFG, Mass Division of Ecological Restoration, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resource Conservation Service, American Rivers, The Nature Conservancy, MA Department of Environmental Protection, The Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership, Inter-fluve, Inc. Project design/engineering, Sumco Eco-Contracting Project construction

### **Lower Cape May Meadows – Cape May Point, NJ Ecosystem Restoration Project (MARIT)**

#### **Peconic River Fishway Partnership (MARIT)**

The Peconic River is the longest river on Long Island and is the main tributary of the Peconic Estuary. It flows approximately 17 miles west to east from its headwaters on the Brookhaven National Laboratory property to its mouth in Flanders Bay. There are five main dams on the Peconic River. The first dam upriver is in Grangebel Park which has two spillways; the North Spillway and South Spillway.

#### **Partners include:**

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Peconic Estuary Program (PEP), New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), Suffolk County, Town of Riverhead, American Rivers, FishAmerica Foundation, Peconic River Fish Restoration Commission, New York Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership (NY-CWRP), National Grid and Spectra Energy.